

Serial No.: 09/837,864
Conf. No.: 7511

- 9 -

Art Unit: 1745

REMARKS

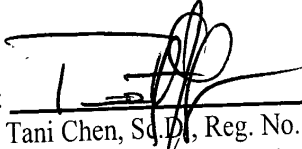
The Applicants have amended claim 52 to delete the "44" after the period, which is an inadvertent typographical error. Applicants believe that this amendment is fully responsive to the Office Communication of November 6, 2003, as discussed by the Applicants' representative in a telephone conference with Examiner Martin on December 8, 2003. Applicants repeat their Response to the Election/Restriction Requirement filed July 25, 2003, and believe that at least claims 52 and 108 should be examined together with Group I, claims 1-51, for the reasons stated.

CONCLUSION

A first and favorable Office Action is respectfully requested. If, for any reason, the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conversation with the Applicant's representative would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at 617-720-3500.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,
Tao T. Tao and Wei Bai, Applicants

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